Abstract

Objectives: This study was established to shed light on the prevalence of HGV infection and investigate the risk factors for viral transmission among haemodialysis patients in Iraq.

Patients and methods: One hundred fifty patients is known case of end stage renal failure on regular hemodialysis screened for Anti-HCV antibody and Anti-HGV antibody were detected by Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA). HGV RNA on the other hand, has been detected using PCR(polymerase chain reaction) technique in the serum of 62 Iraqi haemodialysis patients in comparison with 150 healthy individuals control. This case-control study was conducted during the period from April 2012 till May 2013 at Teaching laboratories of Baghdad Medical city.

Results: Among 150 haemodialysis patients the prevalence of HGV infection was detected in 41.3% in hemodialysis patients by ELISA technique, from those HGV-RNA were observed in 38 (25%) patients. In addition, It was found that blood transfusion increased the risk of HGV infection significantly (P<0.05). However, There was no association between HGV infection and duration of hemodialysis patients.

Conclusions: The prevalence of HGV infection in haemodialysis patients seems to be relatively high in our area. Infection with HGV does not seem to play a significant pathogenic role. only the number of transfusion of blood or blood products increases the risk of new infection during hemodialysis.

Keyword: HGV-C, heamodialysis, virus, PCR